A FACETED SEARCH SYSTEM FOR FACILITATING THE UNDERSTANDING AND THE PREDICTION OF ECOSYSTEM CHANGES
Introduction
“Any morphological, physiological or phenological feature measurable at the individual level, from the cell to the whole-organism level, without reference to the environment or any other level of organization” (Violle et al. 2007)

Functional trait-based approaches are widely used to address biodiversity issues
**Motivations**

- Scientific experiments conducted in a collective and distributed way
- Need: organized in an unifying way the available data and data sources
  - Organize trait terms through a SKOS thesaurus
  - Collaborative building of a thesaurus
    - Thesauroform tool
    - Result: Thesaurus Of Plant traits (TOP)
Unifying system of plant trait modelling
Faceted search system
Definition

- “a technique for accessing a collection of information, allowing users to explore by filtering available information. A faceted classification system allows the assignment of multiple classification to an object, enabling the classification to be ordered in multiple ways, rather than in a single, pre-determined, taxonomic order”

source: http://www.mumia-network.eu/index.php/working-groups/wg4
Faceted search benefits

- Facilitate the thesaurus appropriation by the end-users:
- Reorganize in an intuitive way the thesaurus terms
Unifying system of plant trait modelling
Faceted search benefits

- Access to disseminated data with a reorganization of the information.
Conclusion
Conclusion and future work

- **Faceted search**
  - Facets ensure flexibility
  - Facets address the needs expressed in ecology
  - Data access and retrieval according to community preferences

- **Next developments**
  - iDiv project: Searching data for analysis: access TRY dataset lists from Thesauroform and Thesaurus Of Plant traits using SPARQL endpoint and webservices
Thanks for your attention!

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